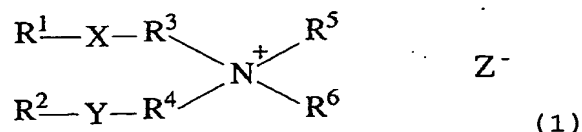


ABSTRACT

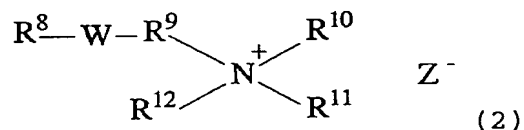
The purpose of the present invention is to provide a softener composition which suppresses for a long time body smell derived from sweat etc. and is excellent in the softening effect. That is, the present invention relates to a softener composition comprising:

- (a) a quaternary ammonium compound represented by the formula (1):



wherein R^1 and R^2 independently represent a C_{12-22} alkyl or alkenyl group, X and Y are independently $-\text{COO}-$, $-\text{CONR}^7-$, $-\text{OCO}-$ or $-\text{NR}^7\text{CO}-$, provided that at least one of X and Y is $-\text{COO}-$ or $-\text{OCO}-$, R^7 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl or hydroxyalkyl group, R^3 and R^4 independently represent a C_{1-5} alkylene group, R^5 and R^6 represent a C_{1-3} alkyl or hydroxyalkyl group or $\text{R}^1-\text{X}-\text{R}^3-$ and Z^- is an anionic group,

- (b) a quaternary ammonium compound represented by the formula (2):



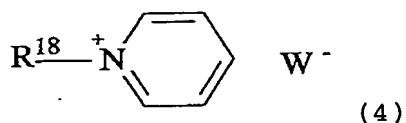
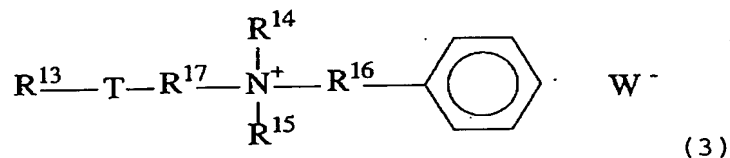
wherein R^8 represents a C_{12-22} alkyl or alkenyl group, W is a group selected from $-\text{COO}-$, $-\text{CONR}^7-$, $-\text{OCO}-$ and $-\text{NR}^7\text{CO}-$, R^7 represents

a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₃ alkyl or hydroxyalkyl group, preferably a hydrogen atom, R⁹ represents a C₁₋₅ alkylene group, R¹⁰ and R¹¹ represent a C₁₋₃ alkyl or hydroxyalkyl group, R¹² represents a C₁₋₃ alkyl group or -R²⁶-OH, R²⁶ is a C₁₋₅ alkylene group and Z⁻ is an anionic group, and

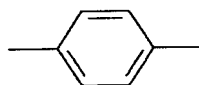
a compound selected from the following component (c) or (d):

(c) 0.1 to 15 % by weight of a compound represented by the formula

(3) and/or formula (4):

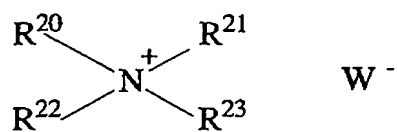


wherein R¹³ and R¹⁸ independently represent a C₅₋₁₉ alkyl or alkenyl group, R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ independently represent a C₁₋₃ alkyl or hydroxyalkyl group and T is -COO-, -OCO-, -CONH-, -NHCO-,



or a linkage, R¹⁶ represents a C₁₋₃ alkylene group, R¹⁷ represents a C₁₋₆ alkylene group or -(O-R¹⁹)_n-, R¹⁹ is ethylene group or propylene group and n is a number of 1 to 10 and W⁻ is an anionic group, and

(d) 0.01 to 15 % by weight of a compound represented by the formula (5):



(5)

wherein 2 or 3 groups out of R^{20} , R^{21} , R^{22} and R^{23} represent a C_{8-12} alkyl group, the remainder of them represent a C_{1-3} alkyl group, a C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl group or a C_{7-15} arylalkyl group and Z^- is an anionic group.

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